



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 2000

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

ARKANSAS, Central and North Central

ARZ003>007-012>016- Boone - Marion - Baxter - Fulton - Sharp - Newton - Searcy - Stone - Izard - Independence - Johnson - Pope - Van Buren -
021>025-030>034- Cleburne - Jackson - Logan - Conway - Faulkner - White - Woodruff - Scott - Yell - Perry - Polk - Montgomery - Garland -
037>047-052>057-062>069 Saline - Pulaski - Lonoke - Prairie - Monroe - Pike - Clark - Hot Spring - Grant - Jefferson - Arkansas - Dallas - Cleveland -
Lincoln - Desha - Ouachita - Calhoun - Bradley - Drew
13 0100CST 0 0 Winter Storm
2000CST



Freezing rain accumulated on exposed objects in central Arkansas on 12/13/2000, including the bannister above. Walking and driving became difficult to impossible, with about 250,000 power outages reported across the state.

A major Winter Storm developed in Arkansas late on December 12, 2000 and lasted through the evening of December 13, 2000. Arctic high pressure began moving east of the region, with clockwise flow around the high pumping warm and moist air from the Gulf Coast region over below freezing air in Arkansas. The end result was heavy snow and sleet across northern and western sections of the state...and freezing rain and sleet in central and southern sections. More specifically, 3 to 6 inches of snow fell across the extreme north before mixing with sleet...with 2 to 4 inches of snow and sleet across much of the north and west. In central and southern sections, one half to 1 inch of freezing rain accumulated...with some sleet mixed in at times. Where icing occurred, there were massive power outages with entire trees falling in some areas due to the weight of the ice. Where trees and tree limbs fell, there was some property damage reported...mainly to roofs and vehicles. The media reported some injuries due to falling tree limbs, but specific numbers were not provided. Power companies in Arkansas reported that about 250,000 customers lost power during the event...which is believed to be the largest outage in Arkansas history. Many people were without power for several days. Extra utility crews and tree trimmers from surrounding states were contacted to help restore power and to remove tree debris from lines. Winter Storm Warnings were posted almost a day in advance, with highway crews able to treat roads before the event began. Many schools announced they would be closed on the 13th, and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management opened their Emergency Operations Center before precipitation began.

ARZ003>007-012>016- Boone - Marion - Baxter - Fulton - Sharp - Newton - Searcy - Stone - Izard - Independence - Johnson - Pope - Van Buren -
021>025-030>034- Cleburne - Jackson - Logan - Conway - Faulkner - White - Woodruff - Scott - Yell - Perry - Polk - Montgomery - Garland -
037>047-052>057-062>069 Saline - Pulaski - Lonoke - Prairie - Monroe - Pike - Clark - Hot Spring - Grant - Jefferson - Arkansas - Dallas - Cleveland -
Lincoln - Desha - Ouachita - Calhoun - Bradley - Drew
25 1400CST 0 0 Ice Storm
27 0200CST



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 2000

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Persons Injured	Property Damage	Crops	

ARKANSAS, Central and North Central



The Ice Storm of December 25-27, 2000 knocked out power to about 300,000 customers. Crews spent days restoring power, with assistance from workers outside of Arkansas.

After a major Winter Storm on the 12th and 13th, a long term Ice Storm developed during the morning of December 25, 2000 and continued through the early morning hours of December 27, 2000. The setup was similar to the previous storm, with warm and moist air from the southwest overrunning shallow below freezing air in Arkansas provided by Arctic high pressure. Mostly freezing rain and sleet were noted, with one and a half to 3 inches of ice in western sections of the state and one half to 2 inches of ice elsewhere. The icing was devastating, with about 300,000 customers losing power. Many people were without power for several days. In parts of western Arkansas, there was no water due to power failures and/or generators failing. Hot Springs was the largest city to lose water service. The Governor's Mansion lost electricity and phone service, with the Governor forced to contact some counties with HAM Radio. Roads became nearly impassible due to the ice and trees that had fallen due to the weight of the ice. The National Guard was contacted to help stranded motorists and to deliver emergency generators. Soldiers driving Humvees had to assist the Little Rock ambulance service...which could not reach patients who lived on steep hills in the western part of the city. FEMA officials, which were due into Arkansas to assess damage from the December 12-13, 2000 Winter Storm could not reach the state. Little Rock National Airport was closed from the evening of the 25th until midday on the 27th due to ice on the runways. This was the first time since 1975 that the airport had been closed for more than 24 hours. Ice Storm Warnings were posted well in advance, with one power company already having 3,000 people on standby in other states before the event began. This event combined with the event on the 12th and 13th was believed to be the worst natural disaster in Arkansas history.

ARZ052>053-055>056-
062>063-065>069

Pike - Clark - Grant - Jefferson - Dallas - Cleveland - Desha - Ouachita - Calhoun - Bradley - Drew

28 0200CST
0900CST

0 0

Ice Storm

Following the Ice Storm on December 25-27, 2000...a system aloft moved through southern Arkansas during the early morning hours of the 28th. With moisture lingering, freezing rain was produced...with additional icing in southern sections of the state. In general, a quarter inch of icing was noted...with locally more.